

Remark

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended. No Claims have been amended. Claims 11-21 have been previously cancelled. Therefore, claims 1-10 and 22-32 are present for examination.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

Chen in view of Molitor

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-10 and 22-32 under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) as being unpatentable over Chen, U.S. Application Patent No. 2002/0116527 ("Chen") in view of Molitor, U.S. Patent No. 6,661,799 ("Molitor").

The Examiner states in his rejection that Chen discloses a flow table. The flow table in Chen is used to route the flow of packets within a lookup engine. (Chen at page 2, paragraphs 25 and 27). The Examiner appears to assert that the lookup engine in Chen is equivalent to the packet-processing applications in claim 1, and that the flow table in Chen is equivalent to the unified cache in claim 1. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's assertion. Nonetheless, Applicants submit that there is no suggestion in Chen that the flow table is accessed by multiple lookup engines. However, Applicants are unable to find any teaching or suggestion in Chen of multiple packet-processing applications accessing one single unified cache.

The Examiner further cites Molitor as a network address translation system. The Examiner has not cited and Applicants are unable to find any teaching or suggestion in Molitor of multiple packet-processing applications accessing one single unified cache.

Accordingly, Claim 1 is believed to be allowable. All other claims are believed to be allowable on the same or similar grounds, *inter alia*.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections have been overcome by the amendment and remark, and that the claims as amended are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejections be withdrawn and the claims as amended be allowed.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

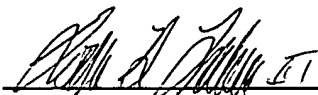
Request for an Extension of Time

Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.
Charge our Deposit Account.

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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